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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,549	12/22/2000	David M. Hoffman	GEMS:0105/YOD(15-XZ-5181)	2105
7590	12/14/2004			
Patrick S. Yoder Suite 330 7915 FM 1960 West Houston, TX 77070			EXAMINER LE, QUE TAN	
			ART UNIT 2878	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/747,549

Applicant(s)

HOFFMAN, DAVID M.

Examiner

Que T. Le

Art Unit

2878

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 6, 9-12, 14, 17, 18, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Danna et al 4,491,865.

Danna et al disclose an imaging system comprising a detector (25) having an array of pixels forming rows and columns, each pixel having radiation detection circuitry (80); a housing assembly (49) configured to receive the detector having a body (27) with a recess and a plurality of elements fitted within the recess; a source of radiation (12) with a control circuit (22); and a flexible sheath, an end cap, an O-ring seal and an epoxy end seal or protective layer (14, 51, 52, 54) surrounding the exterior portions of the housing assembly. The system includes readout/transmission conductors (81). There's at least one protective layer or coating to encapsulate the detector and an elastomer block for sealing the detector and its components. The system of Danna et al inherently performs the claimed method steps.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-5, 7, 8, 13, 15, 16, 19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Danna et al 4,491,865.

With respect to claims 2-5, 7, 8, 13, 15, 16, 19 and 22, although Danna et al disclose a housing and a substrate for the detector assembly but fail to specify the material and/or type of components of the assembly such as a glass substrate with silicon or a film of cesium iodide and a plurality of photodiodes or the use of a parylene coating, selecting a particular material and/or type of detecting elements, that has been known and available in the art, for an optical detection system would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. It would have been obvious to modify Danna et al accordingly in order to provide a suitable use for the operation of the system. The inclusion of a cold plate and/or a fastening means would have also been obvious for similar reasons set forth above. The system of Danna et al inherently performs the claimed method steps.

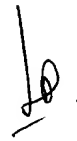
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

I) Eberhard et al 6,770,885 disclose an imaging system having a housing with a plurality of sealing options.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Que T. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-2438.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David P. Porta, can be reached on (571) 272-2444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Que T. Le', with a small horizontal line underneath.

Que T. Le

Primary Examiner